

East Bellevue Community Council
Summary Minutes of Regular Meeting

February 5, 2002
6:30 PM

Lake Hills Community Clubhouse
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Chair Bell, Councilmembers Keefe, Wiechmann, and Seal

ABSENT: Mr. Halgren

STAFF: Drew Folsom, Assistant Land Use Professional
Mary Jo McArdle, Associate Planner
Steve Sindiong, Senior Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the East Bellevue Community Council was called to order at 6:30 PM with Chair Bell presiding. Chair Bell led the flag salute.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call by the Deputy City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present with the exception of Mr. Halgren.

3. COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN AND ORAL

Mary Kate Berens introduced herself as the new Legal Planner for the Department of Planning and Community Development.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Keefe moved approval of the agenda, and Mr. Seal seconded the motion.

Mr. Keefe requested the addition of items 10(a), 156th Avenue SE Roadway Project; 10(b), Status of matter before GMA.

Chair Bell suggested that item 8(b) be taken up prior to item 8(a). In addition, Mr. Bell asked that under Unfinished Business item 10(c), Commendation letters and item 10(d), Commendation resolution for Mr. Lemieux, be added to the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

6. **RESOLUTIONS**

- (a) Resolution No. 440, electing Council Officers

Chair Bell opened the nominations for Chair.

Mr. Seal nominated James Bell.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Bell closed the nominations for Chair.

Chair Bell opened the nominations for Vice Chair.

Mr. Keeffe nominated Bill Halgren.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Bell closed the nominations for Vice Chair.

Chair Bell opened the nominations for Alternate Vice Chair.

Mr. Seal nominated Jim Keeffe.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Bell closed the nominations.

Mr. Keeffe moved approval of Resolution No. 440 with the above slate of nominees. Mr. Seal seconded the motion which carried with a vote of 4-0.

7. **REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:** None.

8. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- (b) Gagner Short Plat

Drew Folsom, Department of Planning and Community Development, provided a brief staff report on the Gagner Short Plat application. The property is located on SE 22nd and SE 21st Streets, approximately 150 feet east of 146th Place SE. The applicant is asking to subdivide an existing .86 acre single-family parcel into two single-family lots. The subject property is zoned R-5 and currently accessed via SE 22nd Street. The applicant proposes Lot A to continue to gain access via SE 22nd Street and Lot B to gain access from SE 21st Street. The site is relatively level with no sensitive areas. Lot A of the proposed preliminary short plat is 29,250 square feet, Lot B is 7,303 square feet.

In response to Mr. Seal, Mr. Folsom pointed out the proposed lot dimensions and boundaries.

Mr. Keeffe requested that, in future, staff provide a more legible, detailed map. He pointed out the potential, in future, for Lot A to again be subdivided into four lots.

(a) 148th Avenue Mobility Improvement Package

Steve Sindiong, Department of Transportation, provided a status report on the 148th Avenue Mobility Improvement Package.

Catherine Cassidy, David Evans and Associates, briefly reviewed the project's background and highlighted the study's progress to date.

In response to Chair Bell, Ms. Cassidy explained the purpose of the 148th Mobility Improvement Project in East Bellevue is to optimize north-south travel along the corridor. She stated safe passage for the side streets (east-west cross traffic) will be maintained, however, there is no guarantee of reduced delays.

Mr. Eder (audience participant) noted the problem with red light running. In response, Ms. Cassidy stated the goal is to reduce travel time when congestion is the heaviest. She stated she was not advocating changing the speed limit.

Ms. Cassidy continued her presentation, reviewing existing traffic and transit conditions along 148th between Bel-Red Road and SE 27th Street at Landerholm Circle. She briefly reviewed the four improvement alternatives identified for consideration.

Mr. Seal suggested the use of right hand turn pockets on Lake Hills Boulevard to ease the current congestion situation.

Ms. Cassidy explained that Alternative No. 1 attempts as little construction as possible.

Chair Bell raised safety concerns for the children walking to and from Lake Hill Elementary School. Ms. Cassidy clarified that the focus of the study has been on the PM peak travel times.

Chair Bell expressed his concern with the study's narrow focus on the intersection, the impact of improved capacity to the neighborhoods who are already concerned with the amount of existing traffic and potential for pedestrian involved accidents. He pointed out that the crosswalks were already thought to be inadequate in terms of safety and feared exacerbating the flow would be like backing into the fan for these neighborhoods.

Ms. Cassidy completed her review of the remaining three proposed alternatives and stated next steps include evaluation and selection of a preferred alternative. The public review of the selected alternative will occur at an open house sometime in May 2002.

Chair Bell asked if the current study will connect to the recently completed 145th Place Corridor Study? Are we building a system or optimizing segments? He expressed his belief that such connectivity would be beneficial. He suggested staff also look at the West Lake Hills Urban Design Analysis and Community Character Study as it relates to the 'river' of division on 148th Avenue.

Mr. Keffe pointed out several things that are working well, including the left turns on green. He suggested that the City go back and take another look at putting an eastbound lane and westbound lane at minimal expense across 148th at NE 8th. Mr. Keffe reflected on road design in Germany, dropping pedestrian traffic underneath intersections.

In response to Mr. Hummer, an audience participant, Mr. Sindiong explained the process used in selection of project stakeholders.

(c) 140th Improvement Project

Chair Bell drew Council's attention to the desk packet and reviewed Mr. Wagner's submitted report. The construction work and utility relocations are both moving forward. The noise walls are going in much quicker and earlier than originally anticipated. Project completion is expected in late summer or early fall.

Chair Bell relayed Bill Serr's concerns regarding the need for a temporary walkway near Sammamish High School.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Bell reported on the West Lake Hills Citizen Advisory Committee. The subcommittees (Neighborhood Quality and Identity, Neighborhood Circulation, and Neighborhood Facility and Resources) will be submitting their recommendations to the Committee of the whole in February. He suggested that Council review the comments within the West Lake Hills Urban Design Analysis and Community Character Study.

Mr. Keffe requested that Clerk research and create a chronology of proposals made by QFC within East Bellevue.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) 156th Avenue Project

Mr. Keffe requested that staff provide a briefing on this project at their March 2002 meeting. There was Council consensus.

(b) Status of matter before the Growth Management Board

Chair Bell reported that both sides are in the process of filing and responding to briefs.

(c) Letters of Commendations

There was Council consensus to mail the commendation letters to the members of the now discontinued Sammamish Community Council.

- (d) Resolution No. 441 – Commending the Service of Past Councilmember Don Lemieux

Mr. Keeffe moved approval of Resolution No. 441. Mr. Seal seconded the motion which carried 4-0.

- (e) Setting March meeting date and location

The Clerk reported on alternate location availability.

In light of the March 5th date being Precinct Caucus night, the East Bellevue Community Council agreed to reschedule their regular first Tuesday meeting in March to the second Tuesday, March 12, and retain the venue of the Lake Hills Community Clubhouse. The Clerk will accomplish a Special Meeting notice to reflect the change in schedule.

11 NEW BUSINESS: None

12. CONTINUED COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Hummer provided a brief description of the proposed parking garage on the Bellevue Community College campus. The parking garage will include 620 parking stalls.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Keeffe moved to approve the summary minutes of the January 2, 2002 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Seal and carried with a vote of 4-0.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Keeffe moved adjournment. Mr. Seal seconded the motion which carried 4-0. The meeting of February 5, 2002 adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by:

Michelle Murphy, CMC
Deputy City Clerk